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The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of said first application program causing said server to present options to said user to create or modify said profile, said options including:

- a first option allowing said user to specify source identifications in said information and associated search terms to search for in said source identifications to said user-defined profile; and
- b. a second option allowing said user to specify delete and/or change said source identifications and/or said associated search terms in said profile.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Bussey, Egido, Kaplan, Rohall, and Yuan, "Service Architecture, Prototype Description, and Network Implications of Personalized Information Grazing Service.", INFOCOM, 1990, pages 1046-1053 ("Bussey").

Claims 2-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Bussey as applied to claim 1, and in further view of Vetter, Spell, and Ward, "Mosaic and the World-Wide Web", Computer Magazine, October, 1994, Vol. 27, Issue 10, pages 49-57 ("Vetter").

Claims 6-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for encompassing the same scope of the invention as claims 1-5.

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Claims 1-10, 12, 15-19, 21, 23, and 24 have been amended. Claims 25 and 26 have been added to more distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention.

I. Section 112, Second Paragraph Rejections

Claims 1-23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner has rejected the terminology "said server presenting a list of options to the client" for claims 1, 6, and 15. See, Office Action at ¶ 3, pp. 2-3. Applicant has amended each of those respective claims to delete the rejected-to language, and therefore submits that the rejection has been overcome.

The Examiner has further rejected claim 2 on the basis that "HTTP should be defined in the claim and specification." See, Office Action at 3, page 2. ¶ Applicant has amended the first occurrence of "HTTP" in each of the claims to specify that HTTP refers to "Hypertext Transfer Protocol." Applicant has further amended the specification at page 5 to define HTTP at its first occurrence in the specification. Applicant further submits that the term HTTP and the definition of such has been specified in the specification at page 10, lines 6 and 7, and to the extent required for an understanding of the present invention, is not required in any additional locations in the specification or the claims. Applicant submits that the amendment made to the specification adds no new matter. Applicant submits that the rejection has been overcome.

With respect to the remaining dependent claims 2-5, 7-14, and 16-23, Applicant submits that all outstanding rejections of under section 112, second paragraph, have been overcome.

II. Section 103 Rejections

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Bussey. Claims 2-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Bussey as applied to claim 1, and in further view of Vetter. Claims 6-24 have similarly been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for encompassing the same scope of the invention as that claims 1-5. The Examiner has stated that:

As to claim 1, Bussey et al. show the invention substantially as claimed, including a data processing 'DP' system, a computer implemented method of retrieving information, comprising: (b) the server presenting a list of options to the client [col. 5, section 3.4 User reception, filtering and User interface, 2nd Paragraph]; (c) a user identifying the user-defined profile via the client [col. 5, section 3.4] User reception, filtering and User interface, 1st Paragraph]; (d) the server engaging a first application program [col. 2, lines 3-8 and col. 3, lines 8-11]; (e) the first application program examining a database of raw information and automatically retrieving a subset of the raw information [col. 5, section 3.4 user reception, filtering and User interface, 3rd Paragraph]; and (f) the first application program transmitting said subset of the raw information [col. 5, section 3.4 User reception, filtering and User interface, 3rd Paragraph]. Bussey et al. disclose the claimed invention except for the client established communication with the server. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to establish communication between the client and the server since it was known in the art that this provides the data integrity when communicating between the client and server to ensure they are activated before starting communication.

See, Office Action at ¶ 6, pp. 4-5.

In addition, as to claims 2 and 5, the Examiner has stated that:

Bussey et al. disclose the claimed invention except for the HTTP browser in the client and the server comprises an HTTP server

application program. Vetter et al. teaches a known browser [page 1, lines 11-12]. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the system was taught by Vetter et al. with Bussey et al.'s system. The combination would enhance the users facility interaction and make the system more user friendly.

As to claim 5, Bussey et al. and Vetter et al. disclose the claimed invention except for the retrieving the information from the database based upon the user-defined profile is performed at periodic intervals. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify processing retrieval information with period intervals, since it was known in the art that updating at periodic intervals would constantly display new retrieved information from the database to the users.

See, Office Action at ¶¶ 8 and 10, pp. 5 and 6.

Applicant respectfully traverses. Applicant's claims, as amended, specify limitations in substantially the following form:

- c. said server engaging a first application program, said first application program retrieving said user-defined profile;
- d. said first application program examining a database of information and automatically retrieving a subset of said information from said database based upon said user-defined profile; and
- e. said first application program transmitting said subset of said information from said database to said server and said server presenting said subset of said information to said client.

Emphasis added, see, the amended claim 1.

Moreover, claim 2, for example, has been amended to specify the following:

The method of claim 1 wherein said client comprises an HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol) browser active on a first computer system and said server comprises an HTTP server application program active on a second computer system.

Emphasis added, see, the amended claim 2.

Applicant respectfully submits that neither Bussey nor Vetter show or suggest the above-cited limitations. Specifically, it appears that Bussey and Vetter

both are client-based systems which process or filter unprocessed information provided by a server. This is clearly evident in figure 1 of Bussey and figure 3 of Vetter. For example, Bussey specifies the PIGS system (Personal Information Grazing Service) which sets forth a user module resident in a local system which contains the keywords and weights for each of the various subject classifications that the PIGS system uses. The user specifies the keyword which describes his or her interest within the given subject. Articles are inserted in the local database resident in the user module as they are received from the network and are filtered in the user module on a regular basis. The filtering is performed locally within the PIGS user module upon the locally-stored database which, as Applicant understands the reference, is a local copy of the database stored in the PIGS service provider. The database is then filtered according to the list of keywords and the frequencies of occurrence of each of the keywords in each of the subjects according to the locally-stored user-defined profile.

Similarly, Vetter teaches a Mosaic-type server which communicates with a Mosaic client over a communication channel and provides information to the client in a variety of manners, for example, in a similar manner to "Archie" to allow post-processing by the Mosaic client based upon a locally-stored knowledge base and HTML language generator which converts the information into HTML documents for display to the user by the Mosaic client. Thus, both Bussey and Vetter are similar in the respect that information is provided in unprocessed form to the client and the client performs the personalized information retrieval or "grazing" as it is referred to in Bussey.

In direct contrast, Applicant's claims set forth a 'server' which "engages" a "first application program" which automatically generates a "subset of the

information" from the database based upon the "user-defined profile". In other words, processing is initiated and provided to the client by the first application program, for example, which is resident in the server. As set forth in claim 2, for example, the client is active on a first computer system and the server is active on a second computer system. In addition, as set forth in claim 4, the user-defined profile is stored as a file in the second computer system (e.g., the server) in order to retain a state of the user-defined profile from session-to-session. Thus, in Applicant's claimed invention, the claimed processing is performed by the server, whereas in the Bussey and Vetter references, processing is performed in the client.

Applicant respectfully submits that the processing of the information within the server is neither taught nor suggested by either of the references. For this reason alone, Applicant submits that his claims distinguish over the references, either taken alone or in combination with one another.

In addition, Applicant submits that Applicant's claimed invention poses advantages neither realized nor suggested by either of the references cited by the Examiner. Applicant submits that Applicant's claimed invention conserves processing bandwidth in the client, because the client system does not need to process the large amounts of information. In addition, it conserves storage space in the client because it does not require a local copy of the unprocessed information in order to process it in the client according to the user-defined profile. All of this activity is performed on the server system. In addition, Applicant submits that Applicant's claimed invention poses advantages over the references because it also conserves communication resources between the client and the server since only the processed data according to the user-defined profile is provided across the communication channel rather than the unprocessed information contained within

the database. Because of the advantages of remote processing in a server, and the associated conservation of communication resources between client and server and computational resources in the client, Applicant submits that Applicant's claims are readily distinguishable over the references cited by the Examiner, and are in condition for allowance.

As to claims 6-24, Applicant respectfully incorporates this analysis by reference, and submits that all of claims 1-24 distinguish over the references.

III. Conclusion

For all the reasons cited above, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 1-26. If any obstacle remain to such allowance, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone.

Please charge any shortages or credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: Nov. 28, 1995

Edward W. Scott, IV Reg. No. 36,000

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Commisioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

November 28, 1995

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